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100TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. J. RES. 120

To void certain agreements relating to the site of the Soviet Union's Embassy in the District of Columbia.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 30 (legislative day, APRIL 21), 1987

Mr. SYMMS (for himself and Mr. BYRD) introduced the following joint resolution; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

JOINT RESOLUTION

To void certain agreements relating to the site of the Soviet Union's Embassy in the District of Columbia.

1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds that—

4 (1) Soviet espionage agents have installed listen-
5 ing devices in the structure of the new American Em-
6 bassy in Moscow in blatant defiance of the spirit of the
7 Embassy agreements and certain recognized norms of
8 international relations;

9 (2) this Soviet espionage effort has been so exten-
10 sive and insidious as to require the virtual rebuilding of

1 a large part of the new American Embassy in Moscow,
2 the construction of which has cost American taxpayers
3 tens of millions of dollars;

4 (3) it is well known that Soviet espionage agents
5 intend to use the new Soviet Embassy in this country
6 as a platform to conduct highly sophisticated electronic
7 surveillance of the United States Government offices
8 and even private telephone calls of American citizens;

9 (4) the purpose of this surveillance can be none
10 other than to undermine the national security of the
11 United States and further the expansionist ambitions of
12 the Soviet Union;

13 (5) the location of the new Soviet Embassy at a
14 site nearly three hundred and fifty feet above sea level
15 is ideal for this type of surveillance, having been of-
16 fered to the Soviets at a time when electronic surveil-
17 lance techniques and potentials were not fully under-
18 stood in the West.

19 (6) subsection (b) of section 4304 of title 22,
20 United States Code, specifically allows the Secretary
21 of State to "require any foreign mission to divest itself
22 of . . . real property . . . where otherwise necessary
23 to protect the interests of the United States"; and

24 (7) Congress, through enactment of such subsec-
25 tion, has clearly expressed the desire that the Secre-

1 tary exercise such authority when necessary to protect
2 the vital security interests of the United States.

3 (b) NEW AGREEMENT WITH SOVIET UNION.—The
4 President shall—

5 (1) void the current Embassy agreements; and

6 (2) enter into negotiations for a new agreement
7 under which the Soviet Union will move its new Em-
8 bassy to a site in the District of Columbia that is not
9 more than ninety feet above mean sea level.

10 (c) EMBASSY AGREEMENTS.—For the purpose of this
11 section the term “Embassy agreements” means—

12 (1) the “Agreement between the United States of
13 America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
14 on Reciprocal Allocation for Use Free of Charge of
15 Plots of Land in Moscow and Washington”, entered
16 into force on May 16, 1969; and

17 (2) the “Agreement between the United States of
18 America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
19 on Conditions of Construction of Complexes of Build-
20 ings of the Embassy of the United States of America
21 in Moscow and the Embassy of the Union of Soviet
22 Socialist Republics in Washington”, entered into force
23 on December 4, 1972.

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